

# Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



AUGUST 30, 2020

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

WWW.FPCOFVICTORIA.ORG | WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FPCOFVICTORIA

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church  
August 30, 2020  
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Proper 17

*Robert J. Hughes, 1980*

**Prelude:** God Be Praised

### Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship

One: Sing a song of thanksgiving.

All: **Declare God's wondrous deeds.**

One: For the Lord dwells among the people;

All: **the glory of God abides with us.**

**Opening Hymn:** "The God of Abraham Praise"

No. 488

### Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Almighty God,  
in the self-giving love of Christ  
you have revealed the path of salvation;  
give us courage to deny our selfish desire  
and bear the cross of discipleship,  
that we may live as those who have no fear of death  
and receive the joy of everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Invitation to Confession

Trusting in the power of God to save,  
let us confess our sins before God and one another.

### Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Holy God,  
we confess that our love for you and for others  
has not been genuine.  
We have not held fast to what is good,  
and we have lagged in affection for our  
brothers and sisters.  
We have not been patient in suffering,  
nor have we persevered in prayer.  
We have repaid evil for evil  
and have failed to live peaceably with all.

*(continued on next page)*

**Prayer of Confession** *(continued)*

**Forgive us our sin,  
free us from fear of the power of evil,  
and help us trust in the power of your  
everlasting goodness;  
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Kyrie Eleison** *(singing in unison)*

**Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, hear the good news:  
Christ has broken the power of sin and evil  
and has opened to us the way of eternal life.

Believe in God, Friends!  
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**Gloria Patri** *(singing in unison)*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

**Prayer of Illumination**

By the power of your Spirit, O Lord,  
make your Word become a joy to us  
and the delight of our hearts. **Amen**

**First Scripture Reading:** Jeremiah 15:15-21

P. 717-718 in the Old Testament

O LORD, you know;  
remember me and visit me,  
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.  
In your forbearance do not take me away;  
know that on your account I suffer insult.  
Your words were found, and I ate them,  
and your words became to me a joy  
and the delight of my heart;  
for I am called by your name,  
O LORD, God of hosts.  
I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,  
nor did I rejoice;  
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,  
for you had filled me with indignation.

*(continued on next page)*

**First Scripture Reading** *(continued)*

Why is my pain unceasing,  
my wound incurable,  
refusing to be healed?  
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,  
like waters that fail.  
Therefore thus says the LORD:  
If you turn back, I will take you back,  
and you shall stand before me.  
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,  
you shall serve as my mouth.  
It is they who will turn to you,  
not you who will turn to them.  
And I will make you to this people  
a fortified wall of bronze;  
they will fight against you,  
but they shall not prevail over you,  
for I am with you  
to save you and deliver you,  
says the LORD.  
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,  
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

**Congregational Hymn:** “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

No. 393

**Second Scripture Reading:** Matthew 16:21-28

P. 18 in the New Testament

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

**Sermon:** Jesus Warns of Suffering

Rev. Jim DeMent

Matthew 16:21: . . . From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering

*Silence and stillness*

**Congregational Hymn:** “Lead On, O King Eternal”

No. 447

**Prayer of Thanksgiving:** (*unison*)

Almighty God,  
we praise you with grateful hearts  
for the many gifts we have received.  
Use us and our gifts for your ministry in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Doxology** (*singing in unison*)

*Genevan Psalter, 1551*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures her below;  
Praise Him above, all heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

**Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

*The Creed of the United Church of Canada*

We are not alone,  
we live in God’s world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God’s presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude:** Bless the Lord, My Soul and Being

No. 224

We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns that Robert Wyatt will be playing for this “Virtual Worship Service.” All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced, under license, from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990). We encourage you to read and sing along at home, as Robert plays the hymns he has selected with comfort, hope, strength, and courage in, now, the Season after Pentecost. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1

Verse 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

**The God of Abraham Praise**

The God of Abraham praise,  
Who reigns enthroned above;  
The ancient of eternal days,  
The God of love!  
The Lord, the great I AM,  
By earth and heaven confessed,  
We bow before Your holy name,  
Forever blest.

You have eternal life  
Implanted in the soul;  
Your love shall be our strength and stay,  
While ages roll.  
We praise You, living God!  
We praise Your holy name;  
The first, the last, beyond all thought,  
And still the same!

Your spirit still flows free,  
High surging where it will;  
In prophet’s word You spoke of old  
And You speak still.  
Established is Your law,  
An changeless it shall stand,  
Deep writ upon the human heart,  
On sea, or land.

**Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said**

Take up your cross, the Savior said,  
If you would my disciple be;  
Take up your cross with willing heart,  
and humbly follow after Me.

Take up your cross, heed not the shame,  
And let your foolish heart be still;  
The Lord for you accepted death  
Upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross, let not its weight  
Fill your weak spirit with alarm;  
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up  
And brace your heart and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength,  
And calmly every danger brave:  
It guides you to abundant life  
And leads to victory o'er the grave.

## Lead On, O King Eternal

Lead on, O King eternal,  
The day of march has come;  
Henceforth in fields of conquest  
Your tents will be our home:  
Through days of preparation  
Your grace has made us strong,  
And now, O King eternal,  
We lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal,  
Till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
And holiness shall whisper  
The sweet amen of peace;  
For not with swords' loud clashing,  
Nor roll of stirring drums;  
With deeds of love and mercy  
The heavenly kingdom comes.

## Bless the Lord, My Soul and Being

Bless the Lord, My soul and being!  
Lord my God, You have such might.  
Cloaked with honor, grand and glorious,  
You are clothed with purest light.  
Stretching out the heavens like tent cloth,  
You are chambered on the deep.  
Riding on the wings of wind-storm,  
Flame and fire Your bidding keep.

Lord, You lad the earth's foundation  
That it would be always sound.  
By the word of Your commanding,  
You set forth each ocean's bound.  
Springs gush forth at Your own bidding,  
Giving drink to every field.  
Bird and beast and all Your creatures  
In that coolness find thirst healed.

Lead on, O King eternal:  
We follow, not with fears,  
For gladness breaks like morning  
Where'er your face appears;  
Your cross is lifted o'er us;  
We journey in its light:  
The crown awaits the conquest;  
Lead on, O God of might.

Grass You cause to grow for cattle,  
Plant for us to cultivate.  
Food You bring forth from our labor,  
Wine for joy and bread for plate.  
Trees You give the birds for shelter,  
Mountain rock and cave for beast.  
Sun and moon both mark the seasons,  
In their light we work and feast.

Lord, how great are all Your workings,  
Wisdom marks them through and through.  
All the earth is Your possession,  
Great and small belong to You.  
Food You give in each due season,  
At Your hand come all good things.  
By Your Spirit You create us;  
Lord, Your breath renewal brings.

## Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

<b>Kathryn Amsler</b>	<b>Gloria Aouelle</b>	<b>Ruth Ann Barnard</b>	<b>Roxanna Hauschild</b>
<b>Leonard "Mac" McCameron</b>	<b>Roland Merrill</b>	<b>Rickey Ramseur</b>	<b>Sarah Waldrop</b>
<b>Nathan Galvan</b> (Son of Leila Galvan)	<b>Angie Longoria</b> (Kids for Christ Parent)	<b>Julianna Longoria</b> (Kids for Christ Disciple)	<b>Samantha Skaggs</b> (Niece of Roxanna and Henry Hauschild)
<b>Billy Ruddock</b> (Prior FPC Member)	<b>John &amp; Jere Swoboda</b> (Prior FPC Members)	<b>Eugenia (Jean) Whitaker</b> (Mother of Robert Whitaker)	<b>Carol Wisdom</b> (Daughter of Lea Lenz)

**For caregiving concerns—please contact:  
Jack Kleinecke (361. 212.3229); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)**

### FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

**All activities suspended,  
pending further notice,  
due to public health concerns.**

### FPC Victoria Servant Leadership Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator  
Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session  
Billy Leske, Building & Grounds  
Dawn Neel, Christian Education  
Linda Patterson, Worship  
Marsha Ricottilli, Asst. Clerk, Mission & Outreach  
Susan Salinas, Caregiving & Fellowship  
Jim Stokes, Finance  
Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship  
Bill Wilkinson, Personnel

#### Other

Paula Leske, Presbyterian Women  
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School  
Shelley Hartman, Dawn Neel, and Helen Resendez,  
Kids for Christ, Vacation Bible School

### Bulletin Cover

The collage of crosses on our Bulletin cover is a contemporary work (textured paint on cardboard) by John Kohan and is entitled "Take Up Your Cross."

The artist said that while watching a BBC documentary about the Hill of Crosses in Siauliai, Lithuania, he got a good sense of just how varied the sign of the cross could be. The artist added, "[The Hill of Crosses] bristles with crosses of different shapes, size, colors, and material left by pilgrims in a jumbled heap. Three times the former Communist regime bulldozed the site, only to find crosses appearing again, as if sprouting from the earth. I thought of Jesus' call for us to take up our cross, daily, and follow him. Surely they must all be as unique as we are people." (<http://sacredartpilgrim.com/pilgrimage/view/21>).

The Lithuanians risked oppression and punishment just for displaying the cross! It is interesting to consider that as each of us takes up our own metaphorical cross, each cross is as unique as the one who bears it. For more on the Hill of Crosses see: [https://sacredsites.com/europe/lithuania/hill\\_of\\_crosses.html](https://sacredsites.com/europe/lithuania/hill_of_crosses.html).

### Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor  
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster  
Tasha Wolf, Office Administrator

### Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
361.575.2441  
info@fpcofvictoria.org